



# News Release

## Arizona Department of Public Safety

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Date: May 3, 2007

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Heart Attack Claims Life, Causes Collision**

Arizona Department of Public Safety Officers are investigating a collision that occurred on Loop 101 and Southern Road. Ms. Bertha Vangelderren, the driver of a Toyota Corolla, was heading southbound on Loop 101 when she had a massive heart attack that caused her to lose control of her vehicle. Ms. Vangelderren's vehicle moved off the roadway and collided with a light pole and then a semi truck. Paramedics arrived at the scene. They pronounced Ms. Vangelderren, a Tempe resident, dead shortly later, she was 81 years old.

The accident happened at about 1230 p.m. on May 3, 2007 and required officers to close Loop 101 southbound for about two hours.

The mission of the Arizona Department of Public Safety, the most dynamic state-level law enforcement agency in the United States, is to protect human life and property by enforcing state laws, deterring criminal activity, assuring the safety of the motoring public on Arizona's highways and providing vital scientific, technical and operational support to other criminal justice agencies. The Department, also one of Arizona's largest law enforcement agencies with some 2,200 sworn and civilian employees, consists of four divisions – Highway Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Criminal Justice Support and Agency Support. The Department is headquartered in Phoenix and has offices located in more than 30 communities within Arizona's 15 counties.